



***The Bulletin of  
Medicaid Drug  
Utilization Review  
in Iowa***

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**SGLT2 Inhibitors**

The FDA has revised the labels of sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 (SGLT2) inhibitors to include warnings about acidosis and of serious urinary tract infections.

Health care professionals should assess for ketoacidosis and urinary tract infections in patients taking SGLT2 inhibitors who present with suggestive symptoms. Symptoms of ketoacidosis include nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, tiredness, and trouble breathing. If ketoacidosis is suspected, the SGLT2 inhibitor should be discontinued.

<http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/ucm475463.htm>

**Long-term Treatment with Clopidogrel**

The FDA has determined that long-term use of clopidogrel does not increase or decrease overall risk of death in patients with, or at risk for, heart disease. Their evaluation also does not suggest that clopidogrel increases the risk of cancer or death from cancer.

<http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/ucm471286.htm>

**Dosing Errors when Switching Between Different Oral Formulations of Noxafil (Posaconazole)**

The FDA is cautioning prescribers that they should specify the dosage form, strength, and frequency on all posaconazole prescriptions. Due to differences in dosing regimens between the oral formulations (oral suspension and delayed-release tablet) of posaconazole, dosing errors have occurred. Drug labels have been revised to indicate that the two oral formulations cannot be directly substituted for each other. Direct mg for mg substitution of the two formulations can result in drug levels that are lower or higher than needed to effectively treat certain fungal infections.

<http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/ucm468035.htm>

Provider Resources are available for each Managed Care Organization (MCO), featuring provider training manuals, webinars and important updates. You may view them at the MCO websites below. It is recommended providers check the websites frequently as information is being updated or added frequently.

### **Amerigroup**

<https://providers.amerigroup.com/ia/Pages/ia.aspx>

### **AmeriHealth Caritas**

<http://amerihealthcaritasia.com/provider/index.aspx>

### **United Healthcare Community Plan**

<http://www.uhccommunityplan.com/content/communityplan/homepage/health-professionals/ia.html>

## Drug Prior Authorization Criteria

### **Topical Antifungals for Onychomycosis**

Jublia<sup>®</sup> (efinaconazole) and Kerydin<sup>®</sup> (tavaborole) will be considered when the following criteria are met:

1. Patient has a diagnosis of onychomycosis of the toenail(s) confirmed by a positive potassium hydroxide (KOH) preparation, fungal culture, or nail biopsy (attach results) without dermatophytomas or lunula (matrix) involvement; and
2. Patient is 18 years of age or older; and
3. Patient has documentation of a complete trial and therapy failure or intolerance to oral terbinafine; and
4. Patient has documentation of a complete trial and therapy failure or intolerance to ciclopirox 8% topical solution; and
5. Patient is diabetic or immunosuppressed/immunocompromised.

If the criteria for coverage are met, a one-time authorization of 48 weeks will be given. Requests for reoccurrence of infection will not be considered.

The required trials may be overridden when documented evidence is provided that use of these agents would be medically contraindicated.

## Medicaid Statistics for Prescription Claims from October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015\*

Number of claims paid: 1,813,937

Average amount paid per claim: \$67.44

Total dollars paid: \$122,330,513

Average amount paid per claim, brand: \$362.12

Percent generic prescriptions: 86.5%

Average Amount paid per claim, generic: \$21.31

Top Drugs by Number of Prescriptions	Top Drugs by Dollars Spent	Top Therapeutic Class by Dollars Spent
Hydrocodone/APAP 5-325mg 32,148 prescriptions	<i>Lantus</i> Injection 100/ml \$2,839,731	Antipsychotics – Atypicals \$10.3 million
Tramadol 50mg 22,044 prescriptions	<i>Humalog</i> Injection 100/ml \$2,487,212	Stimulants – Amphetamines – Long Acting \$6.0 million
<i>Ventolin HFA</i> 20,428 prescriptions	<i>Harvoni</i> 90-400mg \$1,923,898	Diabetic – Insulin \$5.9 million
Loratadine 10mg 19,566 prescriptions	<i>Humira Pen</i> 40mg/0.8ml \$1,750,250	Anticonvulsants \$5.9 million
Omeprazole 20mg 18,448 prescriptions	<i>Spiriva</i> \$1,684,366	Stimulants – Methylphenidate – Long Acting \$4.8 million

\*All dollars reported are pre-rebate